(XXXII. YEAR.) THE (No. 1628.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1776.

The CONSTITUTION and FORM of GOVERNMENT agreed to by the Delegates of MARYLAND in free and full convention assembled.

1. THAT the legislature consist of two distinct branches, a senate, and a house of delegates, which shall be stiled the General Assembly of Maryland.

2. That the house of delegates shall be chosen in the following manner: All freemen above twenty-one years of age, having a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county in which they offer to vote, and residing therein, and all freemen having property in this state above the value of thirty pounds current money, and having resided in the county in which they offer to vote one whole year next preceding the election, shall have a right of suffrage in the election of delegates for such county; and all freemen so qualified shall, on the first Monday of October seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, and on the same day in every year thereafter, assemble in the counties in which they are respectively qualified to vote, at the court-house in the said counties, or at such other place as the legislature shall direct, and when assembled they shall proceed to elect, *viva voce*, four delegates for their respective counties, of the most wise, sensible, and discreet of the people, residents in the county where they are to be chosen one whole year next preceding the election, above twenty-one years of age, and having in the state real or personal property above the value of five hundred pounds current money, and upon the final casting of the polls the four persons who shall appear to have the greatest number of legal votes, shall be declared and returned duly elected for their respective county.

3. That the sheriff of each county, or in case of sickness, his deputy, (summoning two justices of the county, who are required to attend for the preservation of the peace) shall be judge of the election, and may adjourn from day to day, if necessary, till the same be finished, so that the whole election shall be concluded in four days; and shall make his return thereof, under his hand, to the chancellor of this state for the time being.

4. That all persons, qualified by the charter of the city of Annapolis to vote for burgesses, shall, on the same first Monday of October seventeen hundred and seventy seven, and on the same day in every year for ever thereafter, elect *viva voce*, by a majority of votes, two delegates, qualified agreeable to the said charter; that the mayor, recorder, and aldermen, of the said city, or any three of them, be judges of the election, appoint the place in the said city for holding the same, and may adjourn from day to day as aforesaid, and shall make return thereof as aforesaid; but the inhabitants of the said city shall not be entitled to vote for delegates for Anne-Arundel county, unless they have a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county, distinct from the city.

5. That all persons, inhabitants of Baltimore town, and having the same qualifications as electors in the county, shall, on the same first Monday of October seventeen hundred and seventy-seven, and on the same day in every year for ever thereafter, at such place in the said town as the judges shall appoint, elect *viva voce*, by a majority of votes, two delegates, qualified as aforesaid; but if the said inhabitants of the town shall so decrease, as that the number of persons having right of suffrage therein shall have been for the space of seven years successively less than one half the number of voters in some one county in this state, such town thenceforward shall cease to send two delegates or representatives to the house of delegates, until the said town shall have one half of the number of voters in some one county in this state.

6. That the commissioners of the said town, or any three or more of them, for the time being, shall be judges of the said election, and may adjourn as aforesaid, and shall make return thereof as aforesaid; but the inhabitants of the said town shall not be entitled to vote for, or be elected delegates for, Baltimore county, neither shall the inhabitants of Baltimore county, out of the limits of Baltimore-town, be entitled to vote for, or be elected delegates for, the said town.

7. That on refusal, death, disqualification, resignation, or removal out of this state, of any delegate, or on his becoming governor, or a member of the council, a warrant of election shall issue by the speaker, for the election of another in his place, of which ten days notice at the least, excluding the day of notice and the day of election, shall be given.

8. That not less than a majority of the delegates, with their speaker, (to be chosen by them by ballot) constitute an house for the transacting any business, other than that of adjourning.

9. That the house of delegates shall judge of the elections and qualifications of delegates.

10. That the house of delegates may originate all money bills, propose bills to the senate or receive those offered by that body, and assent, dissent or propose amendments; that they may enquire, on the oath of witnesses, into all complaints, grievances, and offences, as the grand inquest of this state, and may commit any person for any crime to the public jail, there to remain till he be discharged by due course of law; they may expel any member for a great misdemeanor, but not a second time for the same cause; they may examine and pass all accounts of the state, relating either to the collection or expenditure of the revenue, or appoint auditors to state and adjust the same; they may call for all public or official papers and records, and send for persons, whom they may judge necessary, in the course of their enquiries, concerning affairs relating to the public interest, and may direct all office bonds (which shall be made payable to the state) to be sued for any breach of duty.

11. That the senate may be at full and perfect liberty to exercise their judgment in passing laws, and that they may not be compelled by the house of delegates either to reject a money bill which the emergency of affairs may require, or to assent to some other act of legislation, in their conscience and judgment injurious to the public welfare; the house of delegates shall not on any occasion, or under any pretence, annex to, or blend with a money bill, any matter, clause, or thing, not immediately relating to, and necessary for the imposing, assessing, levying or applying the taxes or supplies, to be raised for the support of government, or the current expences of the state; and to prevent altercation about such bills, it is declared, that no bill imposing duties or customs for the mere regulation of commerce, or inflicting fines for the reformation of morals, or to enforce the execution of the laws, by which an incidental revenue may arise, shall be accounted a money bill; but every bill assessing, levying or applying taxes or supplies for the support of government, or the current expences of the state, or appropriating money in the treasury, shall be deemed a money bill.

12. That the house of delegates may punish, by imprisonment, any person who shall be guilty of a contempt in their view, by any disorderly or riotous behaviour, or by threats to, or abuse of their members, or by any obstruction to their proceedings; they may also punish, by imprisonment, any person who shall be guilty of a breach of privilege, by arresting on civil process, or by assaulting, any of their members, during their sitting, or on their way to or return from the house of delegates, or by any assault of, or obstruction to their officers, in the execution of any order or process, or by assaulting or obstructing any witness, or any other person, attending on, or on their way to or from, the house, or by rescuing any person committed by the house; and the senate may exercise the same power, in similar cases.

13. That the treasurers (one for the western and another for the eastern shore) and the commissioners of the loan office may be appointed by the house of delegates during their pleasure, and in case of refusal, death, resignations, disqualification, or removal out of the state of any of the said commissioners or treasurers, in the recess of the general assembly, the governor, with the advice of the council, may appoint and commission a fit and proper person to such vacant office, to hold the same until the meeting of the next general assembly.

14. That the senate be chosen in the following manner: All persons, qualified as aforesaid to vote for county delegates, shall on the first Monday of September 1781, and on the same day in every fifth year for ever thereafter, elect *viva voce*, by a majority of votes, two persons for their respective counties, qualified as aforesaid to be elected county delegates, to be electors of the senate; and the sheriff of each county, or in case of sickness his deputy (summoning two justices of the county who are required to attend for the preservation of the peace) shall hold and be judge of the said election, and make return thereof as aforesaid. And all persons qualified as aforesaid to vote for delegates for the city of Annapolis and Baltimore town, shall on the same first Monday of September 1781, and on the same day in every fifth year for ever thereafter, elect *viva voce*, by a majority of votes, one person for the said city and town respectively, qualified as aforesaid to be elected a delegate for the said city and town respectively; the said election to be held in the same manner as the election of delegates for the said city and town, the right to elect the said elector with respect to Baltimore town to continue as long as the right to elect delegates for the said town.

15. That the said electors of the senate meet at the city of Annapolis, or such other place as shall be appointed for convening the legislature, on the third Monday in September 1781, and on the same day in every fifth year for ever thereafter, and they, or any twenty-four of them so met, shall proceed to elect, by ballot, either out of their own body, or the people at large, fifteen senators, (nine of whom to be residents on the western, and six to be residents on the eastern shore) men of the most wisdom, experience and virtue, above twenty-five years of age, residents of the state above three whole years next preceding the election, and having therein real and personal property above the value of one thousand pounds current money.

16. That the senators shall be balloted for at one and the same time, and out of the gentlemen, residents of the western shore, who shall be proposed as senators, the nine, who shall on striking the ballots appear to have the greatest numbers in their favour, shall be accordingly declared and returned duly elected; and out of the gentlemen, residents of the eastern shore, who shall be proposed as senators, the six who shall, on striking the ballots, appear to have the greatest numbers in their favour, shall be accordingly declared and returned duly elected; and if two or more, on the same shore, shall have an equal number of ballots in their favour, by which the choice shall not be determined on the first ballot, then the electors shall again ballot before they separate, in which they shall be confined to the persons, who on the first ballot shall have had an equal number; and they who shall have the greatest number in their favour on the second ballot, shall be accordingly declared and returned duly elected: and if the whole number should not thus be made up, because of an equal number on the second ballot still being in favour of two or more persons, then the election shall be determined by lot, between those who have equal numbers; which proceedings of the electors shall be certified under their hands and returned to the chancellor for the time being.

17. That the electors of senators shall judge of the qualifications and elections of members of their body, and on a contested election shall admit to a seat, as an elector, such qualified person, as shall appear to them to have the greatest number of legal votes in his favour.

18. That the electors immediately on their meeting, and before they proceed to the election of senators, take such oath of support and fidelity to this state, as this convention or the legislature shall direct, and also an oath "to elect, without favour, affection, partiality, or prejudice, such persons for senators as they, in their judgment and conscience, believe best qualified for the office."

19. That in case of refusal, death, resignation, disqualification, or removal out of this state, of any senator, or on his becoming governor, or a member of the council, the senate shall immediately thereupon, or at their next meeting thereafter, elect by ballot, in the same manner as the electors are above directed to chuse senators, another person in his place, for the residue of the said term of five years.

20. That not less than a majority of the senate, with their president, (to be chosen by them by ballot) shall constitute an house for the transacting any business, other than that of adjourning.

21. That the senate shall judge of the elections and qualification of senators.

22. That the senate may originate any other, except money bills, to which their assent or dissent only shall be given, and may receive any other bills from the house of delegates, and assent, dissent or propose amendments.

23. That the general assembly meet annually, on the first Monday of November, and if necessary oftener.

24. That each house shall appoint its own officers, and settle its own rules of proceeding.

25. That a person of wisdom, experience, and virtue, shall be chosen governor, on the second Monday of November 1777, and on the second Monday in every year for ever thereafter, by the joint ballot of both houses, to be taken in each house respectively, deposited in a conference room, the boxes to be examined by a joint committee of both houses, and the numbers severally reported, that the appointment may be entered; which mode of taking the joint ballot of both houses shall be adopted in all cases. But if two or more shall have an equal number of ballots in their favour, by which the choice shall not be determined on the first ballot, then a second ballot shall be taken, which shall be confined to the persons, who on the first ballot shall have had an equal number; and if the ballots should again be equal between two or more persons, then the election of the governor shall be determined by lot, between those who have equal numbers; and if the person chosen governor shall die, resign, remove out of the state, or refuse to act (sitting the general assembly) the senate and house of delegates shall immediately thereupon proceed to a new choice in manner aforesaid.

26. That the ſenators and delegates, on the ſecond Tueſday of November 1777, and annually on the ſecond Tueſday of November for ever thereafter, elect by joint ballot, in the ſame manner as ſenators are directed to be choſen, five of the moſt ſenſible, diſcreet, and experienced men, above twenty-five years of age, reſidents in the ſtate above three years next preceding the election, and having therein a freehold of lands and tenements, above the value of one thouſand pounds current money, to be the council to the governor, whoſe proceedings ſhall be always entered on record, to any part whereof any member may enter his diſſent, and their advice, if ſo required by the governor, or any member of the council, ſhall be given in writing, and ſigned by the members giving the ſame reſpectively; which proceedings of the council ſhall be laid before the ſenate, or houſe of delegates, when called for by them, or either of them. The council may appoint their own clerk, who ſhall take ſuch oath of ſupport and fidelity to this ſtate as this convention or the legiſlature ſhall direct, and of ſecrecy, in ſuch matters as he ſhall be directed by the board to keep ſecret.

27. That the delegates to Congreſs from this ſtate ſhall be choſen annually, or ſuperſeded in the mean time by the joint ballot of both houſes of aſſembly, and that there be a rotation in ſuch manner that at leaſt two of the number be annually changed, and no perſon ſhall be capable of being a delegate to Congreſs for more than three in any term of ſix years; and no perſon who holds any office of profit in the giſt of Congreſs ſhall be eligible to ſit in Congreſs, but if appointed to any ſuch office his ſeat ſhall be thereby vacated: That no perſon unleſs above twenty-five years of age, and a reſident in the ſtate more than five years next preceding the election, and having real and perſonal eſtate in this ſtate above the value of one thouſand pounds current money, ſhall be eligible to ſit in Congreſs.

(To be continued.)

BOSTON, *October* 31.

We hear from the eaſtward, that on Friday the 20th of September laſt, a number of perſons belonging to the privateer armed ſchooner Hannah and Molly, Agreen Crabtree, maſter, went into the port of Liverpool, in Nova-Scotia government, and croſſed by land till they came within call of a large ſhip of 500 tons, mounting 4 carriage guns, 4 cohorns, and 4 ſwivels, the leader of the party hailed the ſhip and deſired them to ſend the boat on ſhore; accordingly the mate came with the boat: The privateer's men got into her, went on board the ſhip and took her.—They brought the guns to bear upon a brig loaded for England, and ordered the maſter of the brig to come along ſide the ſhip, with the brig.—

They then ſtripped the ſhip of every thing valuable, and put the effects on board the brig, and let the ſhip go on ſhore, and came off with the brig. The ſame crew alſo, at the ſame time, took two ſchooners and a ſloop; the ſchooner and ſloop have arrived, but the brig had not arrived in port the 6th of October, ſo that we fear ſhe is retaken. The captain of the privateer was ſo careful as to put all the guns and cannon, with a quantity of powder, on board his own privateer, ſo that they have arrived ſafe. The ſchooner and ſloop had nails, fiſh, and a number of valuable articles on board.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Haerlem, New-York, to his friend here, dated October 8.

"The Heſſians plunder all indiſcriminately, tories as well as whigs; if they ſee any thing they want, they ſeize it, and ſay, "rebel, good for Heſſe man." A tory complained to gen. Howe, that he was plundered by the Heſſians: the general ſaid he could not help it, it was their way of making war. So the "friends of government" are protected! This is great encouragement for tories.

NEWPORT, *November* 4.

Laſt Monday capt. Shearman Clarke arrived at an eaſtern port, in 15 days, from the Weſt-Indies, and informs that he ſaw a letter from France, a day or two before he ſailed, adviſing that it might be depended on that France would declare war againſt Great-Britain very ſoon; that the Pomona and two other Britiſh ſhips of war were ſuppoſed to have been loſt in the late hurricane in the Weſt-Indies, they not having been heard of ſince.

A few days paſt arrived ſafe at an eaſtern port, a continental ſhip from France, having on board 3000 ſtand of arms, 300 barrels of powder, 100 cheſts of tin, dry goods, &c. The captain of which ſays there were great preparations in France for war, and a declaration may be expected very ſoon; ſhe had 7 weeks paſſage.—Some very agreeable intelligence by this veſſel it is thought not adviſable to make public at preſent.

Laſt Thurſday arrived, in eaſt paſſage, a large Jamaica ſhip, loaded with about 600 hogſheads of ſugar, 90 puncheons of rum, ſome cotton, &c. taken by the continental brig Cabot, capt. Hinman. She mounts 16 guns, but we dont learn that ſhe made any reſiſtance.—About the ſame time capt. Job Pearce, in a private ſloop of war, went up the weſt paſſage, with a fine large brig, loaded with fiſh, &c. being his third prize ſafely arrived.

PHILADELPHIA, *November* 13.

Intelligence from head quarters, White-Plains, Nov. 6.

We hear that the morning before, the enemy made a ſudden and unexpected movement from the ſeveral poſts they had taken in our front.

They broke up their whole encampment the preceding night, and have advanced towards Kingſbridge and the North-River.

Some accounts make the loſs of the enemy on Monday ſe'nnight about 400 in killed and wounded. All accounts agree that col. Carr, of the 35th regiment, is among the number of the ſlain.

Intelligence from head-quarters, Ticonderoga, Oct. 31.

On Monday morning, between eight and nine o'clock, our advance guard boat down the lake made the ſignal for the approach of the enemy's fleet. In about an hour five of their largeſt boats or gondolas appeared in ſight, and a number of troops, Indians and Canadians, were ſeen landing upon Three-mile point. Soon after two of the armed boats ſtood over to the eaſt ſide of the lake, inclining upwards, as if ſent to reconnoitre. When they came conſiderably within ſhot, they were fired upon from two redoubts very near the ſhore, and by a row-galley that was ſtationed to cover the boom. They thereupon retired; in the mean time the enemy's troops were diſtinctly ſeen to land upon the back of the point, and preſently after thirteen ſmall batteaus, and birch canoes, croſſed from the weſt to the eaſt ſide of the lake, into a bay about four miles below our redoubt. Upon theſe threatenings of an attack, our lines, redoubts, and poſts, were all manned, and as the motions of the enemy ſeemed to indicate they were gathering their main force upon the weſt ſide of the lake, as if intending to make their puſh there, three regiments (Poor's, Reed's and Greaton's) were ordered from Mount Independence to reinforce this ſide. The orders were inſtantly obeyed, and nothing could exceed the ſpirit and alertneſs which was ſhewn by officers and ſoldiers in executing every order that was given. About four o'clock in the afternoon the boats and canoes that had paſſed to the weſt ſide of the lake returned, and the enemy were ſeen plainly to re-imbark at Three-mile point. The guard boat was immediately ordered to reſume her ſtation, and by ſun-ſet it was obſerved the body of the enemy had retired.

Publiſhed by order of congreſs,

Nov. 12, 1776. CHARLES THOMSON, ſecretary.

In CONGRESS, *November* 14, 1776.

Copy of a letter to the preſident from major general Gates, dated at Ticonderoga, November 5.

"Sir—I have the honour to congratulate the congreſs upon the retreat of lieutenant-general ſir Guy Carleton, with the fleet and army under his command, from Crownpoint. Saturday laſt, the works being put in the beſt order, the boom and bridge of communication finiſhed, and every neceſſary preparative for defence made, I determined to ſend a detachment down each ſide of the lake, to beat up the enemy's quarters of their advanced poſt on Putnam's point and the oppoſite ſhore. About eight at night the detachment, under the command of major Delap, proceeded down the eaſt ſide of the lake, and the other, under col. Conner, down the weſt ſide. Sunday morning major Delap, with his detachment, took poſſeſſion of Putnam's point, which the enemy had juſt abandoned; and immediately detached a ſubaltern, with a ſmall party, to reconnoitre Crownpoint. The officer, having returned, reported that he ſaw the enemy embark, a number of their veſſels under ſail, and the whole preparing to get under way. Col. Conner, on taking poſſeſſion of the poſt oppoſite to Putnam's point, found that likewiſe abandoned. Yeſterday an officer, and a party whom I ſent to Crownpoint returned, and reported he had been at Crownpoint with the inhabitants there; that the enemy were all gone from that poſt, and the inhabitants would come this day to Ticonderoga, to make their ſubmiſſion, and beg the protection of the United States.

I have the honour to be, &c.

HORATIO GATES.

"P. S This will be delivered to you by my firſt aid de camp, major Stuart, a deſerving officer."

The foregoing is a copy of general Gates's letter.

JOHN HANCOCK, preſident.

From the army in the province of York we learn, that after the 27th of October nothing material happened, except ſome ſmall ſkirmiſhes, in which we always came off victorious, and often took priſoners:—That many deſerters had come off to our army, among which there were between 30 and 40 Heſſians:—That ſuddenly on the night of the 5th inſt. the enemy filed off the right of their army to the Eaſt river, and the left, about 8 or 10,000 men, to Dobbs's ferry. That general Waſhington, in the morning, ſent ſeveral parties and two or three baggage waggons;—That on the 7th, the enemy's tranſports, 40 in number (being the ſame which landed the troops at Frogg's-Point) were ſeen going down the Eaſt river towards New-York:—That on the 10th, the party that filed off towards the North river lay between Dobbs's ferry and Philip's mills; that the general being apprehenſive that they intended making an incurſion into the Jerſeys, had ſent gen. Putnam with 4000 men acroſs the river, to join gen. Green, who has 6000 men at Fort Lee, with an intention to ſtop their progreſs, ſhould they attempt the ſame.—Several letters of the beſt authority from head-quarters ſay, they have great reaſon to expect Howe will viſit this city, therefore they urge us to be upon the watch, and be ready for them, ſhould they attempt ſuch a thing.

Extract of a letter from Fort Lee, November 8.

"Our garriſon at Fort Waſhington are in high ſpirits, and go a Heſſian-hunting every day. Yeſterday a ſerjeant and 15 men of col. Cadwalladar's battalion, attacked an out-guard of 47 men, killed three, wounded ſeveral, and burnt the guard hut."

Extract of a letter from Fort Lee, November 10.

"The enemy have not decamped, as was reported, but are ſtill at Dobbs's ferry. Part of our army have come this ſide the river. General Waſhington will croſs to-day. Deſerters confirm the ſuſpicions of the enemy's deſign to pay us a viſit in the Jerſeys; but the attempt is ſo dangerous, and ſo long delayed, that I can ſcarcely believe it is ſeriouſly in agitation. Yeſterday col. Magaw's men killed thirteen Heſſians and an officer, and ſtripped them.—This little enterprize gives ſpirit to our men, and inſenſibly reduces the number of the enemy."

The ſhip Hancock and Adams, capt. Smith, with arms, ammunition, cloaths, tin, &c. on account of the continent, is arrived at Bedford, New-Hampſhire, from Nantz.—We are alſo told another ſhip, laden with the ſame kind of ſtores, is arrived at Boſton.

We hear, by major Stuart, that the enemy, at Dobbs's-ferry, ſtruck their tents laſt Tueſday morning, and marched towards New-York with the greateſt precipitation, ſome of the regiments firing at Fort-Waſhington, as they paſſed by it.

We hear the fleet that left Sandy-Hook on Wedneſday laſt has ſince been ſeen ſtanding to the eaſtward.

Extract of a letter from Fort Lee, October 25, 1776.

"Head-Quarters is now above 20 miles from this place, and we have but little news we can depend upon till a day or two after the tranſaction. To-day indeed I heard the following, which may be worth communicating: one of the veſſels up the North-river came before Dobb's-ferry with an intention to cut off the communication. She lay there one day undiſturbed; but laſt night two field pieces were ſent down, and early this morning began to play upon her. They hulled her 11 times out of 15. She hoiſted ſale, but could make no way for want of wind, and was obliged to put out her boats and be towed off; all which time ſhe was expoſed to our fire. It is hoped this drubbing will prevent ſuch manœuvres for the future, and oblige the pirates to keep aloof. I am informed that ſeveral brigades of our army moved this day up to White Plains; ſo that almoſt all the army is now at that place. Little ſkirmiſhes happen almoſt every day; but they are thought ſo little of that they ſeldom are mentioned as news. The moſt conſiderable was that with Rogers's party, in which a number was killed and wounded, 36 taken priſoners, with 60 ſtand of arms. Two of the priſoners prove to be ſpies, and one a deſerter from us. Theſe I hope will be made examples of. Several Heſſians have been taken ſince.

October 26. "P. S. Since I wrote the above, I learn that the enemy have got between Kingſbridge and White Plains. That ground was left vacant by the removal of the brigades I have mentioned. A captain's guard only was left over ſome proviſion till it could be moved. This day about noon the captain diſcovered about 100 light horſe and as many infantry making that way towards him: he retreated to Fort Independence, and the enemy continued their rout. Whether this was only a foraging party, or whether ſent to take the ground which he had left, I cannot tell: if the latter, I believe it will not be diſagreeable: it is probable the brigades were moved higher up on purpoſe to give the enemy an opportunity of getting in, when they will not be very likely to get out undiſturbed."

Extract of a letter from Fort Lee, November 2.

"Six gentleman who eſcaped from the fleet inform us that there are now 70 ſail of tranſports lying at Red-Hook, to take in 3000 troops who are to go for Rhode-Iſland."

By authentic intelligence, from on board the laſt fleet from England, we are aſſured, that of the ſix thouſand foreign troops in that fleet, one fourth part at leaſt were either dead or greatly afflicted with the black ſcurvy.

War-Office, November 14, 1776.

To the ASSOCIATORS *of* PENNSYLVANIA.

Gentlemen,

CONGRESS have received intelligence that a fleet of the enemy, conſiſting of ſeveral hundred ſail, were yeſterday diſcovered near Sandy-Hook, ſteering to the ſouthward. It is highly probable that their deſtination is for Delaware and the city of Philadelphia. It is needleſs to obſerve that the utmoſt vigour and diſpatch are neceſſary to counteract the deſigns of the enemy, and defend this city, the preſervation of which is of very great importance to the general cauſe. Congreſs have directed us to co-operate with the council of ſafety of this ſtate in concerting meaſures proper on the preſent emergency; and have inveſted us with their full power to carry ſuch meaſures into execution. In diſcharge of the truſt committed to us, we think it our duty to recommend it to you, in the warmeſt and moſt earneſt manner, immediately to put yourſelves in array, and march, by companies and parts of companies, as you can be ready, with the utmoſt expedition to this city. Its ſafety and the intereſt of the United States point out the neceſſity of your ſtrongeſt exertions.

General Waſhington, at the head of a conſiderable part of his army, is advancing ſouthward; but, notwithſtanding all the diſpatch he can poſſibly make, the enemy may arrive before him. If they ſhall be oppoſed, with proper ſpirit and ſufficient numbers, at their firſt approach, there is the greateſt reaſon to expect that their views will finally be defeated; and they will experience, to their coſt and diſgrace, that on no part of the continent they can make an impreſſion. They have been already obliged to abandon Crownpoint and retire into Canada.

It is vain to hope for lenity from your inveterate foes. Their tender mercies are cruelty. The property of thoſe who have acted as their friends, is not ſafer than that of thoſe whom they conſider as their enemies. Deva[illegible]ſtation of every kind marks their footſteps.

Congreſs will do every thing in their power to ſtrengthen you. Expreſſes for this purpoſe are already ſent off to the neighbouring ſtates.

Every thing dear to freemen is now at ſtake. The freemen of Pennſylvania will undoubtedly diſcover the ſpirit and zeal, which their country expects and their critical ſituation demands.

BENJAMIN HARRISON,
JAMES WILSON,
EDWARD RUTLEDGE,
FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE,

Atteſt. RICHARD PETERS, ſecretary,

Extract of a letter from North-Caſtle, November 7, 1776.

"Since I wrote you the other day an event has taken place which I think will finiſh this campaign; the enemy have ſuddenly and unexpectedly decamped. The general opinion is that they are going into winter quarters at New-York, and indeed ſome of the deſerters or priſoners told us this was what they intended, but I think the ſeaſon is not yet ſo far advanced as to render this ſtep immediately neceſſary. It is probable they will take Fort Waſhington in their return, or rather that our people will abandon it, by which means they will at laſt become maſters of New-York iſland. They have become poſſeſſed of more territory this campaign than the laſt, but they will derive very little if any more advantage from it, than from their poſſeſſions in and about Boſton—of *honour*, they will hardly gain ſo much for they do not deſerve it. Let us review their mighty deeds. Two hundred ſail of Britiſh ſhips gained poſſeſſion of Staten-Iſland, a ſandy ſpot of very ſmall extent, inhabited by tories, who ſurrendered it to them without firing a gun. At Long-Iſland they gained more credit, for by fighting they obtained a part of it.

but much the largeſt part remains in our poſſeſſion yet. The city of New-York, and every other place the enemy became maſters of, was evacuated by us, and not conquered by them, except a ſmall hill at White Plains, which they bought and paid a high price for (by their own accounts) in Britiſh blood—this very hill they have now given up to us, as they did Bunker's laſt campaign. In every battle and ſkirmiſh, except at Long-Iſland and the hill above mentioned, we have been victorious. Now what have they to boaſt of? Nothing but a little territory which we evacuated, and by evacuating it obtained important advantages. Will this repay the expences of the largeſt fleet and army Great-Britain ever ſent to America? Have all the enemy's exertions effected the ſo much talked of junction with Burgoyne, which was to produce wonders? Have they ſubjugated the "rebellious Americans,"—the grand deſign of their coming here? Nothing of all this, but to the eternal diſgrace of lord and gen. Howe, impartial hiſtory will record that they croſſed an ocean of 3000 miles, with a fleet of 3 or 400 ſail, an army of near 30,000 men, and a very large train of artillery, to ſubdue men who had been declared in the Britiſh parliament to be "*cowards*," and after all marched but *twelve* miles from their ſhips, during the whole ſummer and part of the fall, and then went into winter quarters. How is the glory of Britain fallen, how have her arms been ſullied! I think gen. Howe muſt feel very much aſhamed of himſelf. Six ſailors and three ſoldiers (priſoners) are brought in this morning; the ſailors were ſent on ſhore to get wood. I have been talking with the priſoners. The ſoldiers ſay the talk in their camp is that the enemy intend attacking Fort Waſhington, and then retiring into winter quarters at New-York. I muſt not omit telling you of a clever exploit of ſome Connecticut rangers under major Colburn. When the enemy attacked the lines at Haerlem, theſe rangers took a fore wheel and a hind wheel of a waggon, and fixed an axletree to them—upon the axletree they placed a keg which would contain about ten gallons, mounted like a mortar; in this they put a canteen with two cartridges in it, and fixed a rope to each end of the axletree. Another perſon got a pitchfork, and wrapped ſome rags about it to make it look like a ſponge. Thus equipped, about 40 of them marched off dragging their mortar with them: when they got within a proper diſtance of the enemy, they ſet fire to the cartridges in the canteen, and fired a volley of ſmall arms. The enemy obſerving the keg, miſtook it for a mortar, and ran away with great precipitation. I have this piece of intelligence from an officer who ſaw the whole tranſaction, and from another who was told of it at Fort Waſhington. I think the epithet of *cowards* may be juſtly retorted; not from this inſtance only, but from others which might be mentioned. The light-horſe are certainly a ſet of poltroons; I have already ſent you ſeveral inſtances of their cowardice, ſuch as their retreating upon a ſingle ſhot being fired at them at White Plains; ſuffering a few of our riflemen to take 30 ſheep from them, &c. which you will eaſily recollect.

"Since writing the above two more priſoners have been taken—they are a ſerjeant and private of the grenadiers, and a drummer and fifer have deſerted from the enemy. We are this minute informed, that 10 more priſoners have been taken by one of our ſcouting parties.

Nov. 8. "The enemy's left wing is at Dobbs's-ferry—their right about 3 miles nearer New-York. *Entre nous*, I think the enemy muſt try to ſtrike ſome important ſtroke which will make a noiſe, before they go into winter quarters. From their lying along the river, I ſuſpect they intend either to enter New-Jerſey, or make a puſh up the North river. In either caſe we are ready for them.

"I have heard nothing about the packet, except that ſome Women who live about two miles below the White-Plains, at whoſe houſe ſome Britiſh officers lodged, heard one of the officers ſay to the other that a packet had arrived which had brought d---d bad news. The very next morning the army began to remove."

ANNAPOLIS, NOVEMBER 21.

Long-Branch, New-Jerſey, Wedneſday morning, 12 o'clock.

DEAR SIR,

ABOUT ten o'clock this morning appeared round the point of Sandy-Hook a number of veſſels outward bound. They are ſtill coming out in great numbers: As I unfortunately have no glaſs, I cannot as yet diſtinguiſh their motions. I ſhall detain the expreſs however, one hour longer, that I may endeavour to form ſome judgment of their numbers and courſe.

One o'clock. I do not think it prudent to detain the bearer any longer. The ſhips come out but ſlowly at preſent. About 100 ſail appear round the Hook, and appear to be ſtanding to the ſouthward, wind at N. W. I obſerve one or two that appear to be very large. Do me the favour to ſend word to Mrs. Searle that I ſet out for Philadelphia this afternoon, and ſhall be there on Friday at noon.

I am, dear Sir,
Your affectionate and obliged friend and ſervant,
JAMES SEARLE.

Philadelphia, Nov. 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN,

THE incloſed letter from Mr. Searle, a gentleman of honour, and a friend to the cauſe of America, containing the moſt important intelligence, I am commanded by congreſs to forward to you with the utmoſt expedition. The uncertain deſtination of the fleet therein mentioned makes it abſolutely neceſſary that you ſhould be informed of their ſailing, that you may make every preparation in your power to defend yourſelves in caſe of an attack. I moſt ardently entreat your attention and exertion on the preſent occaſion, and have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient and very humble ſervant,
JOHN HANCOCK, Preſident.

By an expreſs juſt received, gen. Carleton, with all his forces, has retreated to Quebec.

N. B. The above letters are printed by order of the council of ſafety, that all military and militia officers may have due notice, and have their companies, guns, and other accoutrements, in good order, in caſe this ſtate ſhould be invaded.

Annapolis, Nov. 18, 1776. By order, R. RIDGELY, clk.

In COUNCIL of SAFETY,

October 11, 1776.

WANTED, 5000 pair of SHOES. Thoſe who are deſirous of contracting for the ſame, or any part of them, are requeſted to apply to the Council of Safety of this ſtate.

October 23, 1776.

A QUANTITY of ſtrong coarſe STOCKINGS wanted for the uſe of this State. The Council will contract with any perſon therefor.

By order,
R. RIDGELY, clk.

In CONVENTION. November 4, 1776.

RESOLVED, That all civil officers now in commiſſion for this State under the old government, ſhall continue to act in their reſpective departments, until others ſhall be appointed and commiſſioned in their ſtead, by the legiſlature or executive power of the ſtate, and qualified to act, and that the county courts aſſeſs the county charges as uſual.

Extract from the minutes,
G. DUVALL, clk.

In CONVENTION, May 22, 1776.

RESOLVED, That a public ſalt-work be erected on or near the Bay, near the mouth of Patowmack, and another on the ſea-board of this province; and that the ſaid works be carried on on the public account, under the management and direction of ſuch perſons as ſhall be appointed by the Council of Safety for the time being; and that any ſum of public money, not exceeding the ſum of five hundred pounds, may, by order of the ſaid Council of Safety, be expended in erecting and carrying on each of the ſaid works.

Extract from the minutes,
G. DUVALL, clk.

In COUNCIL of SAFETY, June 10, 1776.

ALL perſons who are willing to undertake the erecting and carrying on ſalt-works, agreeable to the above reſolve of the late Convention, are requeſted to attend the Council, and give in their propoſals, which will be duly attended to.

By order,
G. DUVALL, clk.

Juſt publiſhed, and to be ſold at the Printing-office,

THE

DECLARATION of RIGHTS,

AND THE

CONSTITUTION

AND

FORM of GOVERNMENT,

ESTABLISHED BY THE

CONVENTION of MARYLAND,

Held at the city of ANNAPOLIS, on Wedneſday the 14th of Auguſt, anno domini, 1776.

Gentlemen Freeholders and Free Voters of Anne-Arundel county,

THE 18th day of December next being the time appointed for the choice of a ſheriff for this county, occaſions this addreſs to you.---I have, gentlemen, been appointed to that office ſome ſmall time, during which, I truſt I have executed my duty with honeſty and fidelity; This emboldens me to ſolicit your ſuffrages at the day of election.

I am the public's true and faithful ſervant,
THOMAS DEALE.

St. Mary's county, November 11, 1776.

THIS is to inform the public that John Kelly hath a bond in his hands which appears to be for ſixty pounds of common money, which he has offered to ſell; I have paid forty pounds of the above bond, which he has given no credit for; the balance is not due till next February. The bond was given for 43 acres of land; which he has given a general warrantee for. It appears I ſhall loſe part of the land; I therefore forewarn all perſons from purchaſing the above bond.

LEONARD WATKIN.

THERE is at the plantation of Abraham Woodward, jun. living in Anne-Arundel county, near the head of Severn, two ſtray cows, about ſeven years old; The one a red cow, marked with a crop in each ear; the other a black one, with a crop in the right ear. The owner, or owners, may have them again, on proving property and paying charges. w3

THE partnerſhip of SHAW and CHISHOLM, cabinet-makers in Annapolis, being now diſſolved, thoſe perſons who are indebted to the ſaid company are requeſted to ſettle the ſame, as ſoon as poſſible, with JOHN SHAW, at the houſe lately occupied by the company, or with ARCHIBALD CHISHOLM, at the houſe lately poſſeſſed by Mr. Charles Peale, in Church-ſtreet, where each party intends carrying on their buſineſs of cabinet and chair making as formerly.

FOUR DOLLARS REWARD.

STRAYED or ſtolen, from the plantation of Mr. William Wilkinſon, in Prince George's county, ſome time in October laſt, two dark bay geldings. The one about 14 hands high, a natural pacer, branded on the near buttock thus, I D, and has the marks of old age; the other about 12 or 13 hands high, branded as above, paces ſlow, trots and canters, and hath a ſtar, or a few white hairs, in his forehead. Whoever takes up and ſecures the ſaid horſes, or either of them, ſo that the owner may get them again, ſhall receive the above reward, or a proportion thereof, as the caſe may be, paid by the ſubſcriber, living in Charles county, near Pomonkey.

w3 JOHN DENT.

Williamſburg, Nov. 1, 1776.

By virtue of a decree of the hon. court of admiralty of this ſtate, will be ſold at public vendue, for ready money, on Monday the 25th inſtant, at James-Town on James river, about ſeven miles from the city of Williamſburg,

THE brigantine SARAH, of Great-Britain, lately made a prize of by the Montgomery privateer, capt. Polk, of Annapolis, in the ſtate of Maryland, with her ſails, rigging, and materials, being about 170 tons burthen, Britiſh built. An inventory of her ſails, rigging, and materials, may be ſeen on board the ſaid ſhip.——At ſame time and place will be ſold her cargo, conſiſting of a large quantity of exceeding good Jamaica rum, muſcovado ſugars, coffee, ginger, cotton, and ſundry other articles, ſhipped on board the ſaid ſhip from Jamaica for the London market.

BENJAMIN POWEL, marſhal.

THREE POUNDS REWARD.

RAN away from the ſubſcriber, living in Charles county, near Port-Tobacco, on Tueſday the 24th of September laſt, two negro fellows, one named RALPH, a ſhort well ſet fellow, about thirty years of age, has a ſcar above his right eye in the form of a croſs: had on when he went away, a pair of oſnabrig trouſers, ditto ſhirt, and felt hat. The other named HARRY, middle ſized, has a deep ſcar on one cheek: had on when he went away, an oſnabrig ſhirt, a pair of old cloth breeches and felt hat, and carried with him a caddoe. Any perſon bringing them to the ſubſcriber ſhall have the above reward, or thirty ſhillings for either.

w3 GERARD BOARMAN.

THOMAS HARWOOD, jun. treaſurer of the Weſtern-ſhore, will give conſtant attendance at his office in Weſt-ſtreet, Annapolis, to give in exchange bills of credit emitted by the Provincial Convention of Maryland the ſeventh day of December, 1775, for thoſe emitted by the Convention the twenty-ſixth day of July, 1775.

Annapolis, Aug. 14, 1776.

LOST, on Monday the 5th inſt. a ſmall flat double caſed watch, winds up in the back, and has a ſmall ſcrew in one part of the dial-plate; maker's name John Deards, London, No. 1641. Whoever will bring the ſaid watch to me ſhall receive three pounds reward, and if offered for ſale pleaſe to ſtop it.

JAMES MAWE.

ANNAPOLIS HEAD QUARTERS,
31 July, 1776.

THE benevolent people of this city, and county, are earneſtly requeſted to ſend all the old ſheets, and other old-linen, they can conveniently ſpare, to Dr. Richard Tootell. Their donations will be received (with thanks) either at the doctor's own houſe or at the military hoſpital ſhop, on the State-houſe hill, where the free-ſchool was formerly kept. Bees and myrtle wax, ſaſſafras, ſeneca and black ſnake-roots, tormentil and calamus, are purchaſed. Likewiſe country ſarſaparilla, if clean, ſplit and well cured. Dog-wood berries, which muſt be gathered ripe and cured in the ſhade; when dried, if ſound they will appear of a dark red, if black they are faulty and will not anſwer the purpoſe.

R. TOOTELL, S. M.

Annapolis, June 19. 1776.

WANTED TO HIRE IMMEDIATELY, A SINGLE MAN, who underſtands waiting at table, and can write a good hand. Such a perſon, of good character, may hear of a place, where good encouragement will be given, by applying to the printer hereof.

THREE PENCE per pound is given for fine white LINEN RAGS, and one penny per pound for coarſe, by the Printer hereof.

LONDON, *July* 11.

Government was ſo cloſe that no news might tranſpire from Halifax, that though the packet arrived yeſterday fortnight at Falmouth, yet the letters were not delivered at the General Poſt-office till this day, which gave them time to examine every letter to ſee they made no diſcoveries of what is tranſacted on that ſide of the water.

Lord George Germain's letters to governor Eden, informing him of lord Cornwallis's deſtination, force, &c. were intercepted and ſent to the congreſs.

A letter from an officer at Quebec ſays, "We ſhall want no foreign troops here, the Canadians being very hearty in the cauſe, well attached to his majeſty, and they ſeem very deſirous to ſhew their zeal, by offering hundreds at a time to join our forces. The rebels are all leaving Canada as faſt as poſſible, being fully convinced our forces, with the aſſiſtance of the Canadians, are able to beat them.

A private letter from Cork, by the Endeavour, Hawkins, who arrived on Wedneſday in the river, ſays, that a large body of people on horſeback attacked ſeveral carriages which were coming to that place with proviſions for the government ſhips; that they took all the horſes out, and afterwards the proviſions; ſent the drivers back with the horſes to tell their owners that, if ever they met with them again carrying proviſions off, they would murder them and the bodies. They then ſet fire to the carriages, and burnt them to aſhes. They every one loaded his horſe as much as he could carry; and the reſt they left for the poor people to take off.

Letters from Liſbon, brought by the Camberwell, capt. Forbes, mention, that on the 29th of June, four ſhips from America arrived at that port, which had brought valuable cargoes. They were ordered to traffic for muſkets, powder, &c. but were bound to no particular port.

While the Northumberland Indiaman was at Liſbon to repair her damages, about two months ago, it is ſaid that no leſs than twenty-ſeven American ſhips came in, laden with corn, &c. they ſold their cargoes, and afterwards their ſhips, and were loaded again on account of the Portugueſe, and cleared at their cuſtom-houſe for Leghorn, to avoid Engliſh cruiſers.—The old earl of Lincoln Eaſt-Indiaman, lately brought here and repaired for the Portugueſe, was riding in the Tagus deeply laden, and commanded by a late chief mate of one of our Eaſt-Indiamen, and waiting for an opportunity to get out. He told the Northumberland's people that he was bound to Leghorn.

We are informed that lord Weymouth has juſt received a copy of the treaty between America, France and Spain, of which the following are the leading articles:

The Americans propoſe ceding Canada and Nova-Scotia to France.

Weſt-Florida and the Illinois to Spain.

Grenada to be reſerved, and Porto-Rico to be given to the Americans.

Jamaica to be delivered up to Spain.

The Americans are to build annually for France 12 ſail of the line, at a reaſonable price.

The ports of Philadelphia and New-York to be free ports to all the world, except Great-Britain and Ireland, unleſs the latter becomes an independent ſtate.

The article of gunpowder only, that orders have been iſſued for already, exceeds double the quantity that was expended during the ſeven years war both upon the continent and at ſea.

Extract of a letter from Paris, July 6.

"We hear that the court of Great-Britain have lately preſented a memorial to our court, and alſo to that of Spain, ſtrongly complaining of the trade which is ſo induſtriouſly carried on by the French and Spaniſh merchants with the rebellious colonies of North-America, and at the ſame time enquiring the reaſon of the great armament carrying on in both theſe kingdoms, ſuppoſed to be againſt the ſtates of Africa, whilſt the latter ſit quiet and inactive as if they had nothing to fear? The anſwer given by both the above courts is publicly ſpoken to be this: That with regard to the complaints of trading with the rebels, it is a mere ſmuggling and illicit trade, which, notwithſtanding the riſk of being confiſcated according to law, merchants of every maritime country will always venture and act contrary to the poſitive commands of the legiſlature; but, with regard to the armament, both France and Spain find themſelves highly neceſſitated to ſend ſtrong forces to their colonies of South-America and the Weſt-Indies, in order to prevent a rebellion there, to which they might be induced by the ſeeming ſucceſs of the Britiſh colonies in North-America. Feaſible, however, as this anſwer may appear, yet it is certain, that our ſquadron, lately ſailed from Breſt and Toulon, met and united themſelves with a Spaniſh ſquadron near the cape of St. Vincent; and there are authentic advices, of the lateſt date, mentioning, that the Spaniſh fleet deſtined for Cuba was obſerved ſteering towards Jamaica.

"Since yeſterday, a very ſtrong report is prevailing here, that the Duke de Choiſeul will ſet out for the court of Vienna, in the character of ambaſſador extraordinary, being charged with a commiſſion of a moſt important nature to that court.

"A few days ago died, at his dioceſe, the biſhop of Cleramond: He left two millions of livres in hard caſh, which he made over by will to the king."

July 20. The king has been graciouſly pleaſed to confer on general Carleton, for his diſtinguiſhed courage, conduct and prudence in Canada, the dignity of knight of the bath.

His majeſty has alſo honoured major Caldwell, who brought in the firſt news of raiſing the ſiege of Quebec, with the dignity of baronet.

A commiſſion has paſſed the great ſeal, appointing Henry Strachey, Eſq; ſecretary to his majeſty, one of the commiſſioners for reſtoring peace to the colonies of North-America, and for granting pardons to thoſe of his majeſty's ſubjects, now in arms, who ſhall implore his royal clemency and favour. This commiſſioner has a penſion allowed him of 587l. ſterling per annum during life; but what ſucceſs can be expected from this commiſſioner; whereas the United Provinces have firmly reſolved to keep no correſpondence, or hold no treaty with Great-Britain, or any individuals under her authority, unleſs through the grand American congreſs.

By the laſt veſſels from Old France, we have undoubted accounts that the formidable fleets fitting out in the ſeveral ports of that kingdom, and alſo in the ports of Spain, have no other object than a general attack on the dominions of Great-Britain.—The diſtinguiſhed manner in which the deputies ſent over by congreſs have been received at theſe courts, leaves no room to doubt the concluſion of a treaty of alliance between them and the United States of America.

From the advantageous diſpoſition of the American army, betts are now depending, viz. one thouſand guineas to one hundred, that if the army under general Howe makes good their landing, they will never be able to penetrate ten miles into the country, without being totally cut off.

July 23. It is ſaid, that at leaſt one hundred thouſand pounds of the public money have been expended this year, in circulating the political pamphlets, and papers, written for the miniſtry, by Macpherſon, Knox, Vardeil, Dalrymple, &c. &c. commending the miniſtry, and abuſing the Americans.

The ordnance ſtores ſhipped for America, ſince the 25th of March 1775, we are well informed are charged to government at upwards of a million and a half ſterling, in the eſtimate to be laid before parliament.

The cloathing of the troops in America has been ſo little attended to for the laſt twelve months, that beſides being half ſtarved for want of proviſions, they have been almoſt naked for want of the neceſſary raiment.

Auguſt 5. The true reaſon of gen. Howe's embarking his troops before the arrival of lord Howe at Halifax, was entirely owing to the great deſertion which prevailed among them. It alarmed him ſo much, that he thought it more adviſeable to ſet out on his expedition without waiting for his brother, than to ſtay and ſee his army flying away almoſt by whole companies.

A very extraordinary anxiety about the next intelligence from the army in America is diſcovered at St. James's; and though every perſon who approaches the king, clearly ſees and foretels the total overthrow of the provincials, yet an uncommon uneaſineſs is very manifeſt in ſome countenances at court. It is whiſpered there, that ſhould any misfortune happen to the troops on their landing, which might be likely to impede the future operations of the campaign, a body of twenty or thirty thouſand Ruſſians will be immediately applied for, and ſent over to reinforce the army, let the ſtep be ever ſo diſagreeable to the court of France, or let the conſequences be what they will.

Letters from Peterſburg, by the Withemas, Janſſon, arrived in the river on Friday, ſay, that it may be depended on as a fact, that the Ruſſian fleet lately ſailed for the Mediterranean, is abſolutely in the pay of Great-Britain, and are to act in conjunction with our men of war againſt the Americans, and to endeavour to ſtop, France, Spain and Holland, &c. throwing in ſuccours to them, or giving them any aſſiſtance whatever.

To the LORD MAYOR.

MY LORD,

I WAS laſt week on board the American privateer called the Yankey, commanded by capt. Johnſon, and lately brought into this port by capt. Roſs, who commanded one of the Weſt-India ſugar ſhips, taken by the privateer in July laſt; and, as an Engliſhman, I earneſtly wiſh your lordſhip, who is ſo happily placed at the head of this great city (juſtly famed for its great humanity even to its enemies) would be pleaſed to go likewiſe or ſend proper perſons, to ſee the truly ſhocking, and, I may ſay, barbarous and miſerable condition of the unfortunate American priſoners, who, however criminal they may be thought to have been, are deſerving of pity, and entitled to common humanity.

They are twenty-five in number, and all inhumanly ſhut cloſe down, like wild beaſts, in a ſmall ſtinking apartment, in the hold of a ſloop, about 70 tons burthen, without a breath of air, in this ſultry ſeaſon, but what they received through a ſmall grating, over head, the openings in which are not more than two inches ſquare in any part; and through which the ſun beats intenſely hot, all day, only two or three being permitted to come on the deck at a time; and then they are expoſed in the open ſun, which is reflected from the decks and water like a burning-glaſs.

I do not, at all, exaggerate, my lord, I ſpeak the truth, and the reſemblance that this barbarity bears to the memorable black hole, at Calcutta, as a gentleman preſent, on Saturday obſerved, ſtrikes every one at the ſight. All England ought to know that the ſame game is now acting upon the Thames on board this privateer, that all the world cried out againſt, and ſhuddered at the mention of in India, ſome years ago, as practiſed on captain Hollowell, and other of the king's good ſubjects.

The putrid ſteams iſſuing from the hold are ſo hot and offenſive, that one cannot, without the utmoſt danger, breathe over it; and I ſhould not be at all ſurprized, if it ſhould cauſe a plague to ſpread. The miſerable wrethes below look like perſons in a hot bath, panting, ſweating, and fainting for want of air; and the ſurgeon declares, that they muſt all ſoon periſh in that ſituation, eſpecially as they are almoſt all in a ſickly ſtate with bilious diſorders.

The captain and ſurgeon, it is true, have the liberty of the cabin, (if it deſerves the name of a cabin) and make no complaints on their own account. They are both ſenſible well behaved young men, and can give a very good account of themſelves, having no ſigns of fear, and being ſupported by a conſciouſneſs of the juſtice of their cauſe. They are men of character, of good families in New-England, and highly reſpected in their different occupations; but being ſtripped of their all, by the burning of towns, and other deſtructive meaſures of the preſent unnatural war, were forced to take the diſagreeable method of making reprizals to maintain themſelves, and their children rather than ſtarve.

Numbers of gentlemen, and friends of government, who were on board at the ſame time, will confirm the truth of this my repreſentation, being very ſenſibly touched themſelves at the horrid ſight.

Engliſh priſoners, taken by the Americans, have been treated with the moſt remarkable tenderneſs and generoſity; as numbers, who are ſafely returned to England, moſt freely confeſs, to the honour of our brethren in the colonies. And it is a fact, which can be well atteſted in London, that this very ſurgeon on board the privateer, after the battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775, for many days voluntarily and generouſly, without fee or reward, employed himſelf in dreſſing the king's wounded ſoldiers, who, but an hour before, would have ſhot him if they could have come at him, and in making a collection for their refreſhment of wine, linen, money, &c. in the town where he lived. This is a real fact, of which the moſt ample teſtimony my be had.

The capture of the privateer was ſolely owing to the ill-judged lenity and brotherly kindneſs of capt. Johnſon, who, not conſidering his Engliſh priſoners in the ſame light that he would Frenchmen or Spaniards, put them under no ſort of confinement, put permitted them to walk the decks as freely as his own people, at all times. Taking advantage of this indulgence, the priſoners one day watching their opportunity when moſt of the privateer's people were below and aſleep, ſhut down the hatches, and making all faſt, had immediate poſſeſſion of the veſſel without uſing any force.

I ſhall conclude with ſaying, that though this letter is addreſſed to your lordſhip, I hope that all who may read it, and have any influence, will do all in their power to gain the neceſſary relief; and it is humbly apprehended, that the well-diſpoſed, who are bleſſed with affluence, could not better beſtow their bounty than upon thoſe poor objects. Vegetables and ripe fruits of all kinds, with porter, &c. muſt be very uſeful, as well as the means to procure other neceſſaries. The privateer lies oppoſite to Ratcliffe-Croſs, a mile and a half below the Tower, and by aſking for capt. Johnſon admittance may be obtained.

HUMANITAS.

*** We have been informed, ſince the receipt of the above letter, that the crew of the American privateer the Yankey, were yeſterday morning, at half paſt three o'clock, conveyed on board a veſſel, and carried down the river to be ſecured in Dover-Caſtle.

Annapolis, October 16, 1776.

THE CONVENTION of this province having thought proper to paſs a reſolve, that no bonds in the LOAN-OFFICE be put in ſuit for non-payment of intereſt before the 1ſt day of January next, thoſe in arrears are requeſted to take notice, that no further indulgence will be given.

JOHN CLAPHAM,
tf WILLIAM EDDIS.

To be ſold, on Saturday the 21ſt day of December, 1776.

NEAR 400 acres of valuable land, lying in the upper part of Anne-Arundel county, joining the plantation where I formerly lived: This land is exceedingly well adapted to corn, wheat, rye, and fine tobacco. There are alſo 140 acres of fine meadow ground, equal to any in this province, ſix acres of which are cleared, well ſet with timothy graſs, under a good fence, and now rents for 12l. a year. There is a good orchard, and ground enough cleared to make 200 barrels of corn the enſuing ſummer. It is ſituated in a good neighbourhood, is about 22 miles from Elkridge landing, about 15 miles from Ellicott's mills, and about 23 from Bladenſburg: There is a fine and extenſive range. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe, may view the land before the day of ſale, by applying to capt. Benjamin Warfield, who lives near it. The terms will be made known on the day of ſale, by Nicholas Dorſey, ſon of Joſhua, on Elkridge, or by the ſubſcriber,

w6 2 JOHN WAYMAN.

Will be expoſed to ſale to the higheſt bidder, for ready money, on the 10th day of December next, agreeable to the laſt will and teſtament of John Young, deceaſed,

ONE hundred acres of land, lying in Talbot county, in Miles-River Neck, near the ferry, with a large good dwelling-houſe, with all other houſes ſuitable to it, with two bearing orchards thereon. The ſale to be on the premiſes. Likewiſe ſome ſtock and houſhold furniture.

For further particulars enquire of James Benſon, near the ſaid land,

w3 2 MARY YOUNG, Executrix.

To be ſold at public ſale, on Tueſday the 10th day of December next (if fair, if not, the next fair day) at the dwelling-houſe of the late Mr. Benjamin Harriſon, at Weſt-River, for bills of exchange, ſterling caſh, or current money, at an exchange to be agreed upon on the day of ſale,

A PARCEL of healthy NEGROES, conſiſting of men, women and children, among whom are two young fellows who are good ſawyers.—All perſons indebted to the eſtate of Benjamin Harriſon are deſired to make immediate payment; thoſe who have claims are deſired to make them known to

2 SAM. HARRISON, } Executors.
SAM. HARRISON, jun. }

Prince-George's county, November 10, 1776.

STRAYED or ſtolen from the ſubſcriber, living near Snowdens iron-works, a dark bay mare, almoſt black, quarter blooded, about fourteen hands high, with a white ſpot on her withers about as big as a man's hand; ſhe trots and gallops and has been lately docked; ſhe has a ſmall tail, low neck, her mane hangs each ſide on her neck; ſhe is low in fleſh, and ſuckled a colt when taken away; ſhe has no perceptible brand. Any perſon who apprehends the thief and ſecures the mare, ſo that the owner may get her again, ſhall receive five pounds reward; if ſtrayed, twenty ſhillings, paid by

w3 2 THOMAS GASSAWAY WATKINS

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